



Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation Open Position: Research Biologist

Organization Background: The Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation (CFRF) is a non-profit, private foundation dedicated to conducting research and education that assists in the achievement of sustainable fisheries through the generation and communication of better biological and environmental data and effective technologies. The CFRF's work is for the benefit of individuals and businesses dependent on commercial fishing, consumers of seafood, and the public good. For more information about the CFRF, please visit www.cfrfoundation.org.

Position: Full-Time Research Biologist who leads CFRF's sea scallop work and supports fishery monitoring surveys.

- Average of 40 hours of work per week
- Salary of \$60,000-\$65,000/year and benefits of healthcare, retirement, life insurance, and paid holiday, personal and compensation time.
- One year contract, beginning in February 2024, with opportunity to extend depending on funding availability and performance.
- Expectation of two days per week in the CFRF office, at the docks, or at-sea with remaining work conducted from a home office
 - CFRF office is in the Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island building on the East Farm Campus of the University of Rhode Island (Kingston, RI). Surveys leave from various ports in Rhode Island or New Bedford, Massachusetts.
 - Expected sea time is 1-8 days per month

Scope of Work: The qualified applicant will lead in the implementation of CFRF's current sea scallop projects and seek to develop new initiatives. CFRF has three active sea scallop projects that all include directly working with scallop harvesters. The [Sea Scallop Research Fleet](#) and [ScallApp](#) projects seek to collect fishery-dependent biological information that improve the spatial and temporal scallop data available to scallopers, scientists, and managers. The third project, which will start field work this spring, seeks to reduce sand dollar and small scallop catch through [dredge bag modifications](#). It is expected that the individual will work with the current CFRF Biologist in charge of these studies during the month of February to transition duties. The individual will also be expected to help with fishery monitoring surveys, including regular participation in a beam trawl survey that monitors scallops and other benthic animals.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Scallop Research
 - Lead fishery-dependent scallop data projects
- Maintain communication with participant fishermen and provide technical and logistic support, as needed.
- Track sampling progress and encourage participants to achieve sampling targets
- Work with collaborators to organize, maintain, and replace sampling equipment, as necessary

- Review images for classification accuracy
 - Lead dredge back modification study
- Maintain project gear
- Organize and execute at-sea trials
- Identification and characterization of fish and invertebrates
 - Explore, plot, and analyze data
 - Synthesize and share results
 - Reporting on program progress and results to supporting agencies.
 - Development of scallop related research proposals
 - Research set-Aside quota
- Maintain communication with contracted fishermen
- Collected landing slips and track quota usage
- Fisheries Monitoring
 - Assist with beam trawl survey
- Participation in monthly survey
- Identification and characterization of fish and invertebrates
- Collection of oceanographic data
- Data entry
- Stomach content analysis
 - Participate in survey trips using other gear types

Minimum Qualifications:

- Master's Degree in fisheries science or related field
- Experience (>1 year) working with commercial fishermen on cooperative research projects
- Experience working at-sea
- Experience conducting Atlantic sea scallop research
- Knowledge of and ability to identify fish and invertebrates found in waters off the coast of Southern New England
- Experience writing research proposals and technical reports
- Proficiency in data summarization and analysis program (Excel, R, or other statistical software)
- Demonstrated excellence in organization
- Experience with digital data sharing techniques, such as Dropbox and Google Drive
- Valid Driver's License
- Ability to lift >50 lbs.

Preferred Qualifications

- Experience conducting cooperative research in the Atlantic sea scallop fishery
- Experience leading scientific surveys at-sea
- Experience working on gear modification studies
- A United States Coast Guard approved safety at-sea training certification
- Training in protected species identification and handling within the past 5 years
- Experience writing research proposals and technical reports

To Apply: Email a cover letter, CV, and contact information for three professional references to twinneg@cfrfoundation.org by December 29, 2023.

Questions: Contact Teresa Winneg twinneg@cfrfoundation.org or 401-515-4890.